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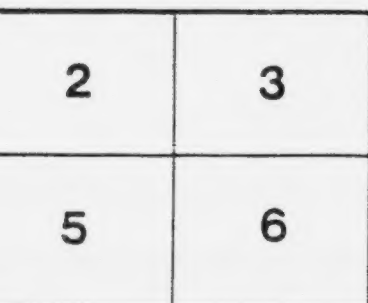
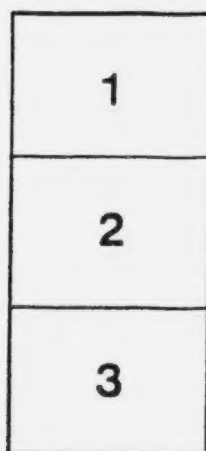
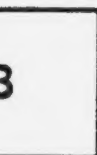
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# FREEDOM OF BELGIUM

FOR THE CAUSE OF HUMANITY



On guard on the Channel Coast

From LONDON ONTARIO  
to BELGIUM and Back

By Private "TOM" JENNER 53931  
Original 18th Battalion, C.E.F.

LIBERTIE

EQUALITY

A condensed account of  
Canada, Overseas, to England  
by one of the first 50,000 Can

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From October 1914 to

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*But an old soldier who  
Fought many battles at  
The fiercest engagements  
Was the cause of Hun  
the c*

Private "TOM" JENNER, 53931

QUALITIE

FRATERNITIE

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ount of my experience from  
o England, France and Belgium  
.000 Canadians. +

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914 to December 1916

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*dier whom all can applaud  
battles at home and abroad.  
ngagement I ever was in  
of Humanity and  
the conquest of Huns.*

R, 53931 Original 18th Batt. C.E.F.

Accepted with Thanks by  
 His Most Gracious Majesty  
 King George V. Buckingham  
 also by Her Most Gracious Majesty, Palace  
 The Dowager Queen Mother, Alexandria  
Marlborough House

1914  
 - 15  
 - 16

with the Original  
 18<sup>th</sup> B<sup>n</sup>

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and the  
 Royal  
 Engineers

Reg No  
 53931

With the Compliments of Tom Jenner  
 To, Your Grace R.G.  
The Duke of Devonshire  
Governor General  
of Canada,

Composed and written by  
an old Yunbridge Wells boy.

FREEDOM OF BELGIUM

FROM LONDON, Ont.,

TO

BELGIUM and BACK

In that Belgium land so far away  
Three score are left who went that day.  
From Rectory Street we made a start,  
Reaching Montreal just like a dart.  
In Moncton, Col. Wigle took us out,  
The people there, how they did shout!  
Well received were we, inland to coast.  
This we can vouch for without a boast.  
Orders then on Sunday, parade for Church,  
But with full packs and none in the lurch.  
The Gangways to S. S. Grampian looked  
Where we really and truly all were booked.  
The S. S. Northland also took a load  
And kept us company on the road.  
The road was watery, the voyage fair.

## FREEDOM OF BELGIUM

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All in good trim, what did we care?  
Our sister ship not far away  
We saw on each and every day.  
Within sight of Ireland's Emerald Isle  
The Cruiser Cumberland met us in style.  
With two torpedo boats still at sea  
At Avonmouth we landed with glee.  
On Britain's shore we were at last,  
Not a fear on Canada did we cast.  
From West to East we trained away,  
Through London City went that day,  
Then to Sandling West where we were sta-  
tioned,  
We were awful glad to get our rations.  
Trench digging, Bivouacks, fighting sham,  
We did it in style, our hearts aflame.  
From Folkestone on, one dark night,  
To Boulogne in France, what a great sight!  
Outside the town we rest at ease,  
And see the Francois go just as you please.

## FREEDOM OF BELGIUM

On the Channel trip, I forgot to say,  
A collision our sister boat had that day.  
Nine men were absent first French parade,  
But eight turned up and never stayed,  
The ninth was rescued by a fishing smack—  
Still is fighting stern under the Union Jack.  
To St. Omer then by train we went  
At eleven at night, but no more tents;  
Then on by road and no more steam,  
Thru Bailleau and Eecke on to Dranoutre.  
At last we see the Belgium smoke.  
Not five miles from that very spot  
The bullets and shells flying real hot.  
Up Grainger Street we go zig-zag in haste  
To show the Bavarians that we can paste.  
They say, "Canadians, we give you hell."  
"Go to it," we say, and sure they tried.  
The music was sweet, but how they sighed.  
After our rest, the Saxons came;  
Their's was always a peaceful game.



## FREEDOM OF BELGIUM

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Headquarter orders then came out,  
To the R.E.'s I must turn about.  
Underground then I went to mine,  
To blow them high and dance to time.  
Airships in the air; mines underground;  
The noise of shells bursting around.  
Bullets whizz and sing as they reach the  
earth,  
You forget the day you had a birth.  
The 4th Brigade to Dickebusch and Loos,  
But I stay right where the R.E.'s choose.  
Then we follow on to the 18th brave.  
Too far gone unconscious I go  
With Hospital Train to the coast to show  
Camiers, Etaples, LeHavre and Southamp-  
ton,  
Shorncliffe, West Sandling and Folkestone  
Junction,  
On Britain's shore again to live.  
I ought to Heaven my best thanks give.

## FREEDOM OF BELGIUM

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To Bath and Liverpool; orders "Go Home."  
In Canada now not allowed to roam.  
With Engineers again tried to do a bit,  
But Ottawa says, "You just sit,  
Some younger men must do their bit."  
My son is there now in my place,  
And I trust the Huns that he will lace.  
My only regret—my comrades fair—  
Their lot and hardships I cannot share.  
Good old 18th—never a finer bunch;  
None could eat a finer lunch!  
Gallant Officers and Gallant Men,  
Great numbers will never meet again.  
"Au Revoir," say I, "No compre Francais."  
Well, good-bye all, is what I say.

PRIVATE "TOM" JENNER, 53931

D Co., 18th Battalion.

Enlisted October, 1914.





